

From: Benjamin Trevino [mailto:bentut@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2013 8:42 AM
Subject: Council Meeting Testimony
Testimony to the Honolulu City Council
Bill No. & Title: Bill 53 (2013) Open Data
Date, Time: Wednesday, November 13, 2013, 10:00 a.m.

Place: City Hall, City Council Chamber
To: Council Chair Ernest Martin, Council Vice Chair Ikaika Anderson and Members of the City

Council
Subject: Support for Bill 53 (2013) CD2, FD1

My name is Ben Trevino and I am a Database developer for The University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization. I strongly support Bill 53 (2013) CD2, FD1 relating to open data.

Open Data is the fuel for citizen engagement and something Honolulu's municipal government has an opportunity to take a national lead on. As a member of the developer community, I know that there are a number of interested active citizens that are eager to collaborate with government data providers in providing tools for citizens to understand and use government resources better. A well-informed population is necessary for functioning democracy and with the progress of technology, and aging media business models, I strongly believe government supplied open data may be the future of journalism. Honolulu has a brief, but impressive history of supporting civic-minded innovation, and this bill is a wonderful opportunity to continue that trend.

With this bill we can codify open data in the C&C of Honolulu and join the State of Hawaii (Act 263) in realizing open data's full potential.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

Sincerely,

Ben Trevino....
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